

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. **10/073,895**
Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.111 dated September 8, 2003
Response to the First Rejection dated May 8, 2003

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 21 remain pending in the present application, of which claims 1 and 9 have been canceled and claims 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17 and 18 have been amended. The Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added. It is believed that this Amendment is fully responsive to the Office Action dated **May 8, 2003**.

Drawings:

Item 1 of the Office Action indicates that Figures 22 - 25 must be labeled as "Prior Art". Replacement sheets including corrected Figs. 22 - 25 are attached. Applicants respectfully request approval of the corrections.

Allowable Subject Matter:

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication in the Office Action that claims 3 - 5, 7, 8, 13 - 15, 17 and 18 would be allowable, if amended, to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In view of the above, claims 3, 7, 8, 13, 17 and 18 have been amended into independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 3, 7, 8, 13, 17 and 18 are allowable. Further is respectfully submitted that dependent claims 2, 4 - 6, 10 - 12, and 14 - 16 are also allowable based on their respective dependency on the above allowable independent claims.

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As to the Merits:

As to the merits of this case, the Examiner sets for the following rejections:

1) claims 1, 2, and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Kawakatsu et al. U.S. 5,568,002;

2) claims 1, 2, and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Strauss et al. U.S. 6,081,172;

3) claims 1, 2, 6, 9 - 12, and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Hirota et al. JP 10-65481;

4) claims 19 -21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Takamine U.S. 6,556,100; and

5) claims 9 - 12 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kawakatsu et al. US. 5,568,002 in view of Hirota et al. JP 10-65481.

Each of these rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 19 - 21:

With regard to claims 19 and 20, the Examiner takes the position that Takamine discloses in Fig. 1 that the width between adjacent electrode fingers of IDTs 103 and 104 is narrower than the width of the other electrode fingers.

However, while Takamine may disclose narrow pitch finger portions 103a, 104a, 104b, 105a each located on the sides that are mutually adjacent to the neighboring IDTs, (see lines, 38 - 41, column 5), Takamine also discloses that each of the narrow pitch finger portions 103a, 104a, 104b, 105a include more than one electrode finger.

In other words, as shown in Fig. 1, the last two electrode fingers of IDT 103 in the narrow finger portion 103a have the same width. This is also true for the other finger portions 104a, 104b and 105a as well.

Thus, it follows that Takamine fails to disclose or suggest the features of claims 19 and 20 concerning *the width of adjacent electrode fingers of an input IDT and an output IDT is designed to be smaller than the width of the other electrode fingers.*

If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

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In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: Replacement Sheets of Drawing (Figs. 22- 25)

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